

Winter maintenance and snow removal

Winter weather is here and Georgina is ready. The Town of Georgina provides residents with a high level of snow-removal services. Whether it's reducing snow and ice on roads or clearing it from paths and sidewalks, the Town is diligent in ensuring residents and visitors can travel safely.

Winter Maintenance Event

As a result of a major winter storm, the Town may declare a Winter Maintenance Event which requires all parked vehicles to be removed from Town roads until the event is over. Residents are asked to follow our channels – social media, Town Page, electronic signs and georgina.ca/snow – to stay up to date throughout the winter.

Significant Weather Event

A municipality may declare a Significant Weather Event when a weather hazard, either forecast or occurring, has the potential to pose a significant danger to users of the roadways in which they have authority. This declaration extends the maximum timelines for municipalities to meet their winter maintenance service levels.

Windrow clearing pilot program



The Town has started a pilot program to provide driveway windrow clearing to residents who are aged 65 or older, or who require additional assistance. A windrow is the pile of snow at the end of the driveway created by the plows when they clear the road. The application process is now open to eligible residents. Visit georgina.ca/snow to apply.

Who is eligible?

- All occupants of a household must be over 65 years of age, or,
- Under 65 years of age and all occupants of the address over the age of 12 are physically unable to remove snow. To qualify, residents must provide a formal doctor's note, disability certificate or Functional Abilities Form (FAF) signed by a medical practitioner identifying they are unable to shovel snow

The program is scheduled to begin on Feb. 1, 2022.



Priority routes

Priority snow clearing routes including major thoroughfares, bus and transit routes, and access to fire stations, are always maintained first and may receive multiple treatments during a snow event. Once these priority roads have been cleared, secondary roads will follow.

Be nice. Don't throw snow or ice on the road when clearing your driveway or sidewalk – It is against the law, contributes to unsafe driving and walking conditions, and increases the cost of providing winter road maintenance.

No parking!

Parked cars make plowing difficult and sometimes impossible. To help the Town keep roads clear for traffic, parking is not permitted on most streets from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m., Nov. 15 through April 15, unless otherwise posted.

Materials - What we're using on your roads

The Town uses both sand and treated salt for snow and ice control throughout Georgina during the winter months. Winter sand is a mixture of nine parts sand to one part Thawrox® treated salt. Thawrox® is Highway Course Rock Salt treated with additives to lower the usable temperature on a municipal highway. By lowering the usable temperature, the material can be utilized on a wider range of winter events throughout the winter period. The location, traffic volume, road classification and roadside environment all factor into what material is used on a route.

Winter Materials Trial – The Council-approved pilot program has been expanded and will continue this winter where 100 per cent salt is applied on selected road segments during winter maintenance activities. This differs from past practice of using mixed sand, and results in less overall material applied to the road surface. This program offers potential financial, operational and environmental benefits utilizing best practices within local environments throughout the Town.